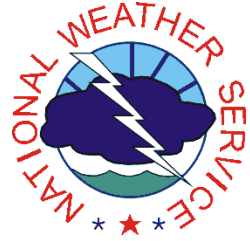




National Weather Service Tallahassee, Florida

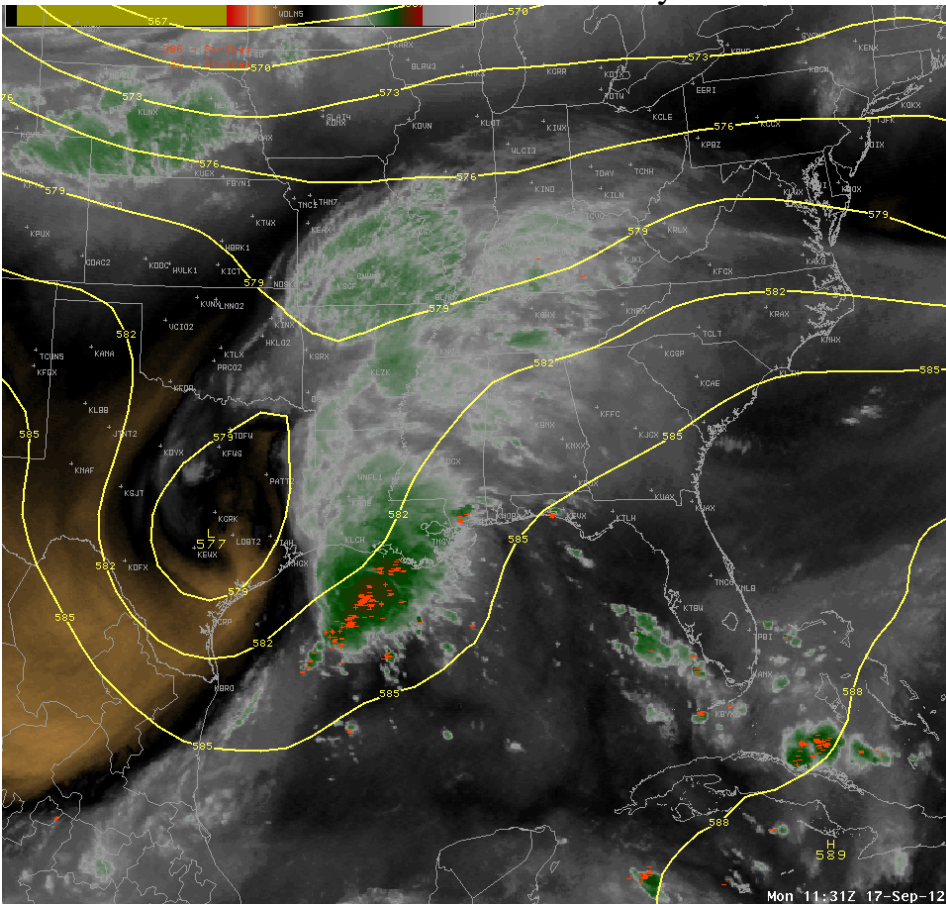


In this update:

- Severe thunderstorms expected from late today through Tuesday. Isolated tornadoes also possible.

Key Points for this event:

- Numerous thunderstorms are expected to develop today. These storms are expected to organize into strong to severe storms during the overnight hours and continue to work across the forecast area on Tuesday.

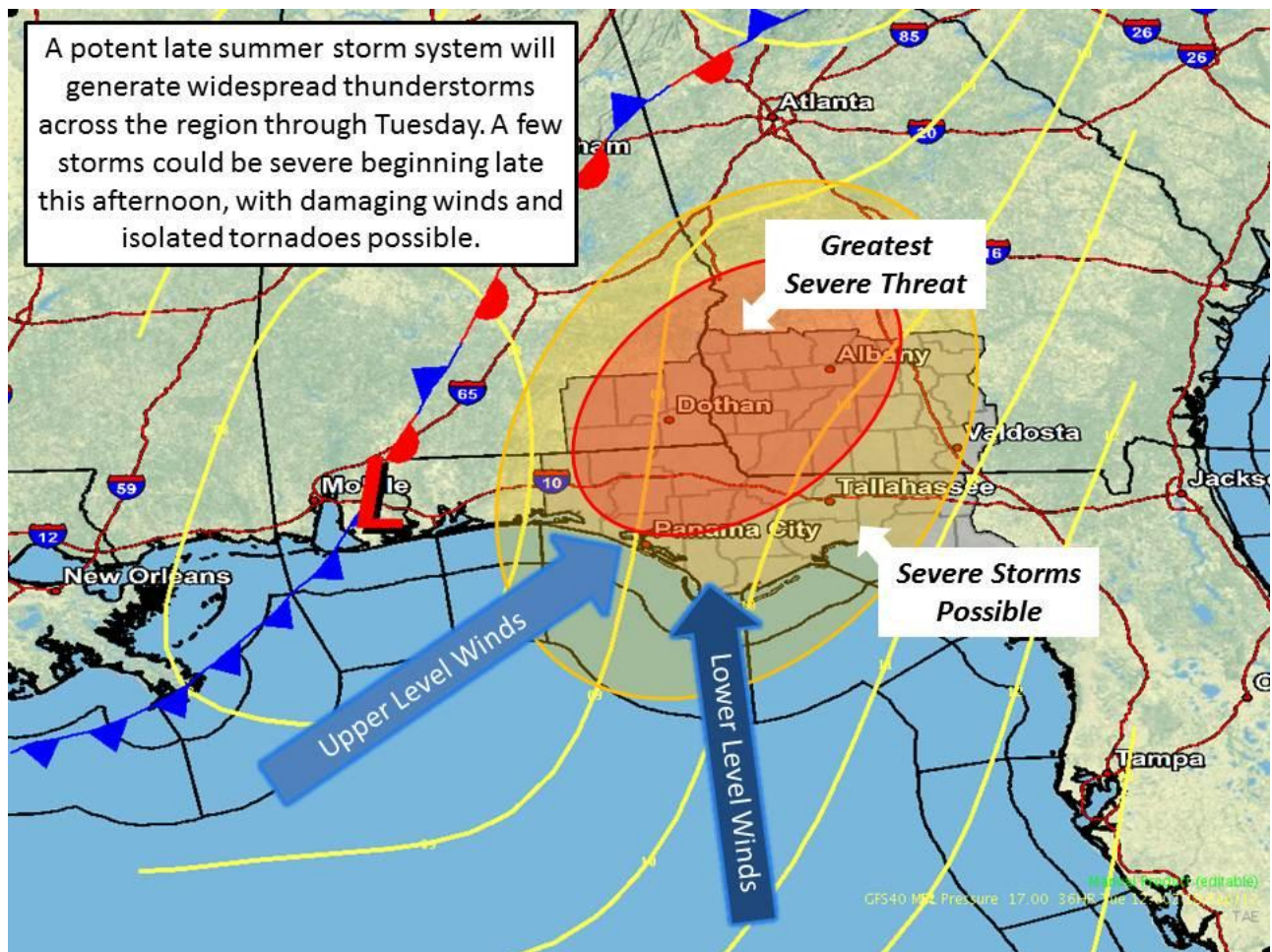


Water vapor image with NAM 500-mb heights valid 1131Z 17 Sept.

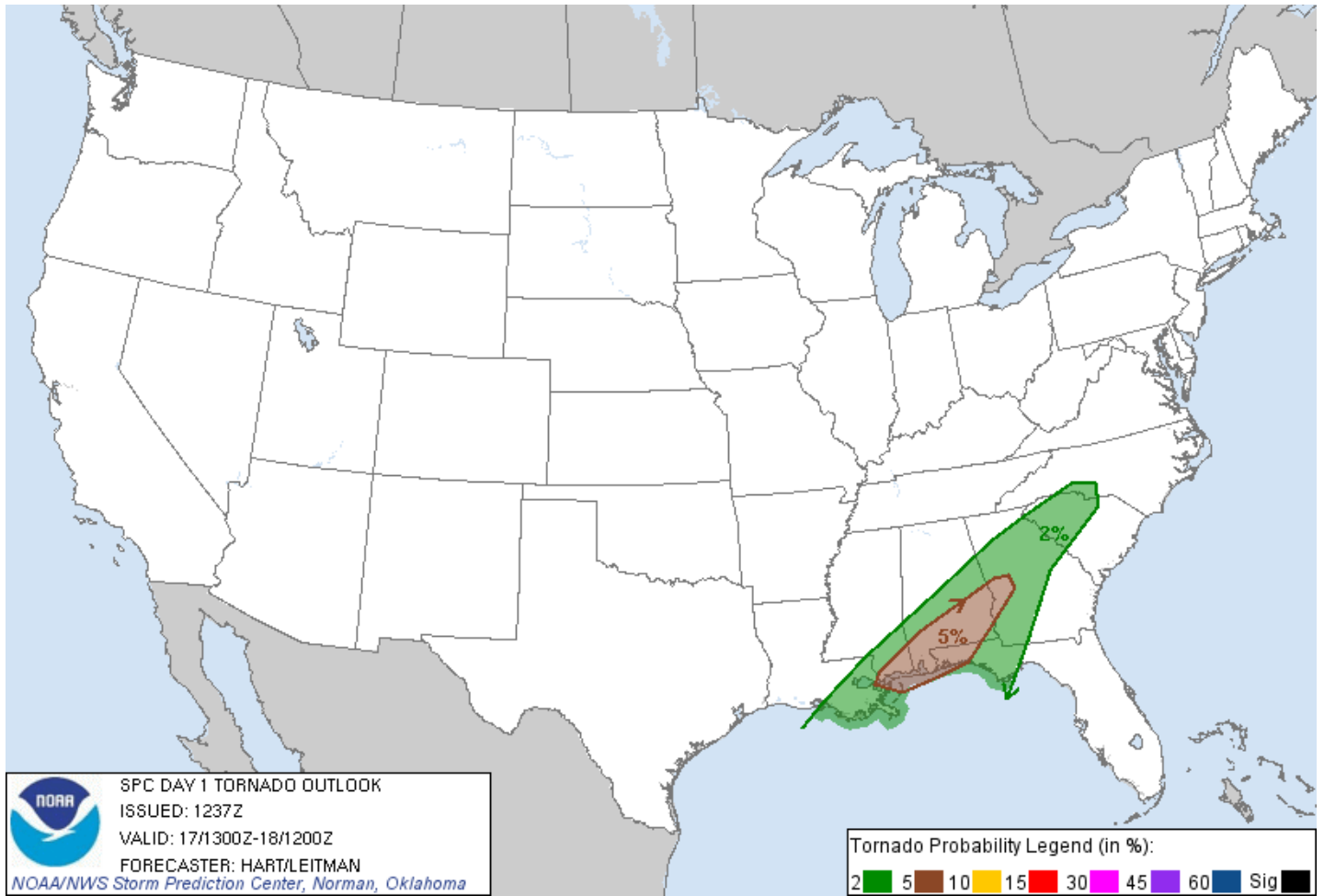
The current weather picture:

An unusually strong upper level system for this time of year is poised to move across the Deep South over the next 2 days. This feature has already induced the formation of surface low pressure over the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. Thunderstorm activity has also increased in this area. The low will track northeast to Louisiana by this evening before getting absorbed by and approaching cold front. As the front and upper level system approach, wind fields will become increasingly favorable for the development of severe storms and tornadoes.

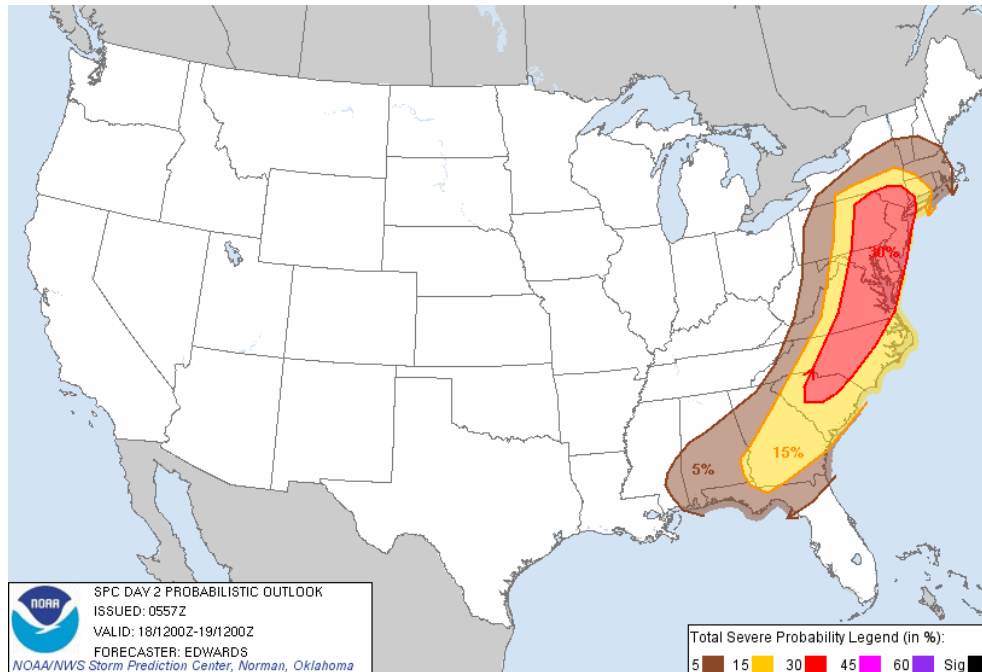
Impacts:



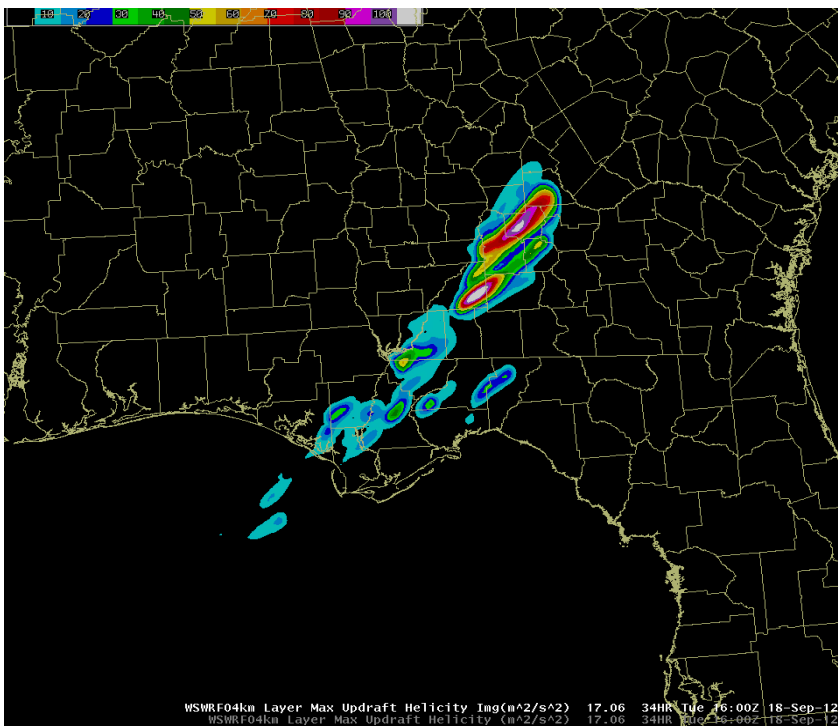
This image indicates how wind shear will contribute to an increased threat for severe weather across the forecast area. While severe storms will be possible across most of the region, the areas shaded in red have the best chance to see tornadoes.



This image shows where the highest probabilities for tornadoes exist through about sunrise on Tuesday. The brown-shaded 5% risk area is analogous to a slight risk area. It should be noted that the ingredients for severe weather will not be fully in place until after dark.



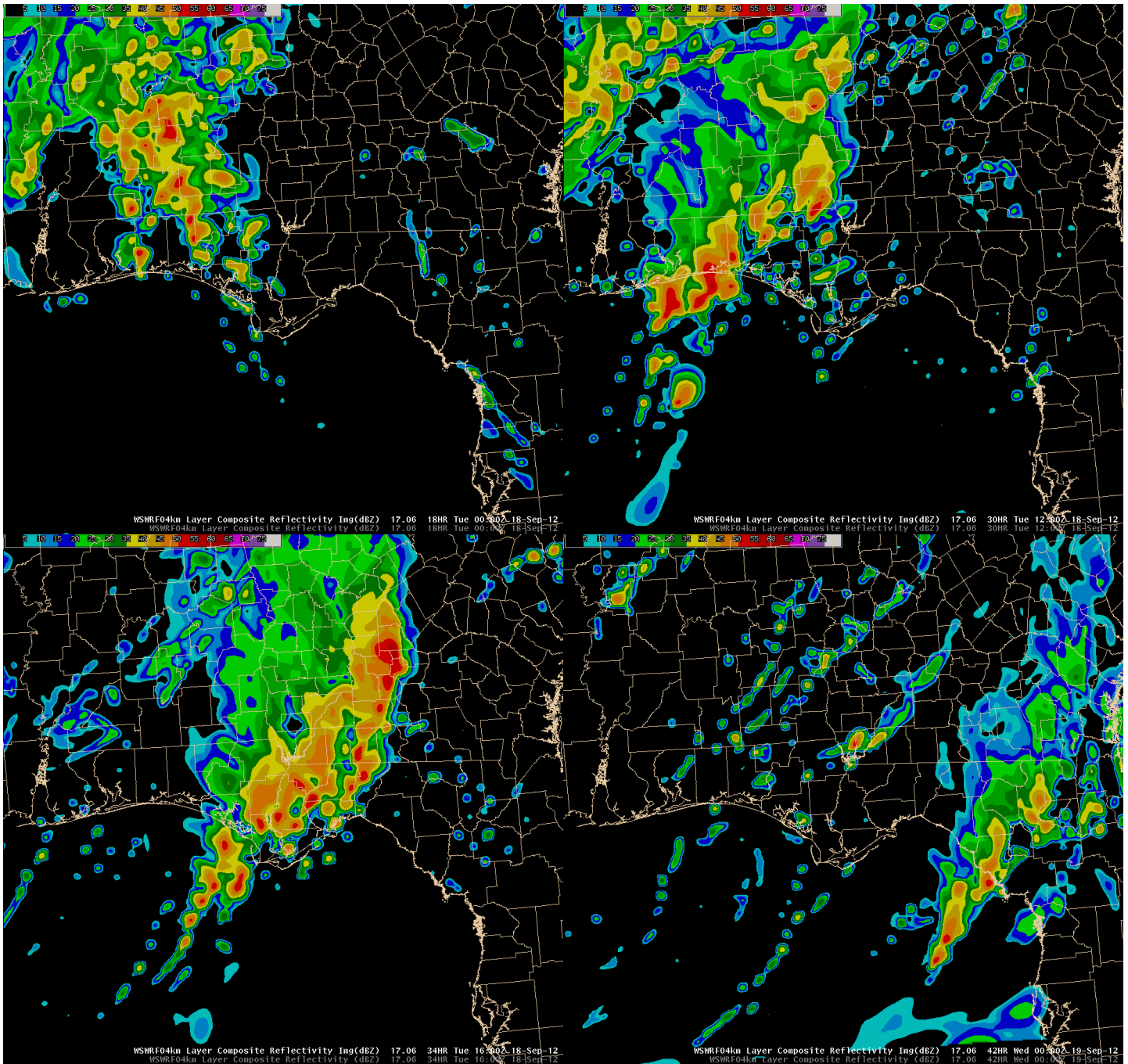
This image shows the likelihood for severe weather after sunrise on Tuesday. The yellow-shaded area indicates the area of 15% probability of damaging wind gusts or tornadoes within 25 miles of a point. This is considered a slight risk. While these values may not sound very high (when compared to our normal rain chances), they are well above normal in terms of severe weather, especially for this time of year.



The image to the left shows maximum updraft helicity values depicted by on locally-run hi-res model. Maximum values in excess of $90 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}^2$ are indicated by the pink, purple and white shading and are quite high. This is just a technical way of showing that this model is forecasting fairly strong rotating updrafts which would be conducive for tornadoes.

Timing

While scattered to numerous thunderstorms will develop today, the ingredients for severe weather should not be in place until after dark. The best chance for tornadoes will commence around 4 AM EDT and continue through much of the day on Tuesday. The following sequence of images indicates what our local hi-res model thinks the radar will look like at various times throughout the event.



The upper left panel is valid at 8 PM EDT this evening. The upper right panel is valid 12 hours later. Note most of the convection remains over our western zones, but has by this time become stronger and more organized. The lower left panel is valid at Noon EDT and shows the strongest storms impacting the FL Big Bend and South Central GA. The primary pre-frontal band of convection will only be approaching the Suwannee River by 8 PM Tuesday as depicted in the lower right panel.

Summary:

- Severe thunderstorms are possible today, but the primary threat window will be from late tonight through much of Tuesday.
- Damaging winds and tornadoes are the main threat, but localized flooding cannot be ruled out.

The National Weather Service in Tallahassee will continue to monitor this situation. If you have any questions, please give our office a call at 850-942-8833 or on our toll free line at 800-598-4562 and ask to speak to a meteorologist. We are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also reach us on our Southern Linc phone at 1*77*184.